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Prohibition of Adi-Dravidas from eating the carcasses of cattle.

*77 Q. Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have prohibited the Adi-Dravidas from eating the carcasses of cattle?

A.—No.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the Government, on considerations of public health, do not think it advisable to order the prohibition of the depressed classes people eating the carcasses of cattle?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It will be seen from the answer to the next question that local bodies are authorized to prevent flesh of carcasses being sold to people. The village officers also have been similarly authorized."

Burial of the carcasses of cattle.

*78 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what steps the Government have taken to get the carcasses of cattle which die of diseases examined before they are passed for consumption;

(b) whether the Veterinary Department have any orders to see to the burial of cattle that die of objectionable diseases; and

(c) whether any District Collectors have ordered the burial of dead cattle instead of their being delivered for consumption, and if so, in what districts?

A.—(a) Under the Madras Local Boards and the Madras District Municipalities Acts, local bodies have power to frame by-laws regarding animal control and dangerous diseases of animals. The Government have framed model by-laws on the subjects for adoption by local bodies. The model by-laws provide that no dead or dying animal shall be admitted into a slaughter-house and any such animal brought to the slaughter-house shall be seized and destroyed in such manner as the President or Chairman may direct.

(b) No. Under the instructions contained in the Village Officers' Manual, the village headman should arrange for the burning or burial of carcasses of animals which die of infectious diseases, when found on a road or other public place. According to the model by-laws framed by the Government, carcasses of animals dying of contagious diseases in private premises should be handed over to local fund or municipal staff who will arrange to bury them.

(c) Government have no information.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know if the Collector of Tinnevelly has passed an order prohibiting the eating of carcasses?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice, Sir."

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Mr. M. Devadasan :—"With regard to (c) the Government say that they have no information. Is it not a fact that the Collector of Tinnevelly has passed such an order and whether it could not be communicated to the other Collectors so that they may also do likewise?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"Notice, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"In clause (a) of the answer reference is made to model by-laws which lay down that dead or dying animals should not be admitted into the slaughter-houses."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"Model by-laws are intended for the purpose of being adopted by the local bodies and such by-laws deal with the fact that no dead animals should be admitted to the slaughter-houses."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"Sir, my point is that carcasses could not be brought to the slaughter-houses and therefore to meet the difficulty in rural areas mentioned in the question special steps ought to be taken by the Government."

Burial-ground in Madire village, Bellary district.

*79 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the burial-ground in Madire village near Kulur, Bellary taluk, Bellary district, is dangerously near the drinking water well and dwelling houses from a sanitary point of view;

(b) whether the question of the acquisition of a suitable site for burial purposes has been under consideration and, if so, for how many years; and

(c) the stage which the matter has reached now?

A.—(a) The Government understand that the burial-ground is near the drinking water well and that its situation is objectionable from the sanitary point of view.

(b) Yes; from August 1928.

(c) The matter is awaiting a personal inspection of the locality by the President, Taluk Board, Bellary.

Burial-ground in Bantanahal village, Bellary district.

*80 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the old burial and burning sites in survey No. 48 and survey No. 110 are no longer available for the purposes of burial and cremation of dead bodies in the village of Bantanahal, Alur taluk, Bellary district;

(b) the survey numbers of the present sites used as a burial or burning ground by (1) Kapus, (2) Lingayats, (3) Boyas, (4) Depressed classes and (5) Muhammadans of the village respectively; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to set apart unobjectionable sites for the disposal of dead bodies and prevent the promiscuous disposal of corpses all round the village, including rastas?